



A PROCLAMATION that straungers shall paye lyke custome and sub-
sidie as the kynges subiectes.



FOR AS MOCH as it is the offyce and duettie of chiefe rulers and gouernours of all ciuile comynalties, to study deuise and practyse by sondre wayes and meanes, to auance set forth and encrease theyr common welthes, committed to theyr curtes and charges, and to maintayne and obserue suche ordynaunces and orders, as by them shulde be deuysed for the same, if by the experience of them, suche goodnes pofyte commoditie and benefyte succede therof in and amonge theyr ciuillite, as they entended, and if not, then to reuoke repeale and refourme theyr sayde ordynaunces and orders, and establishe newe from tyme to tyme, as the necessitie of theyr common welthe shulde require: The kynges moste royall maiestie, HENRY the VIII. by the grace of god kyng of Englande and of Fraunce, defendour of the fayth, lord of Ireland, and in erthe supreme heed of the church of Englande, of his moste excellent goodnes, depely ponderynge and consyderynge his kyngely office and charge, and that although in the tyme of his moste gracious reygne, a great myltitude of lawes ordynaunces and orders, haue ben deuysed made and ordeyned by his moste excellent wysedome and polycie, for auancement and encrease of the common welth of his realme, and the great pofyte and commoditie of his lounge subiectes of the same, yet his moste graciouse highnes, lyke a moste godly and worthy ruler, not myndynge to cease, but dayly to trauayle and labour in deuysynge and settinge forth the orders and ordynaunces from tyme to tyme, as his grace by his moste excellent wysedome maye perceyue iuste occasion of necessitie in his common welthe, and now amonges other thynges callynge to his moste graciouse remembraunce, that all be it his highnes is iustely and laufully entytled in the ryghte of his imperiall crowne, to take and perceyue for Custome and subsidie of marchauntes estrangers conueynge or transporthyng, into this his realme or out of the same, their wares, goodes, and marchandyses, greater and larger sommes of money, than of his owne lounge and naturall subiectes, and beinge in good hope and confydence, that although the moderation therof shuld tende to his graces owne detrimment and losse, that yet it shal be a great occasion, to haue more plentiful resorte trafike and commutation with in this his graces realme, with and amonge his lounge subiectes of the same, for their enrychynge welthes and commodities. Takynge therfore more respect to the auancement of his graces common welthe, than to his owne singular pofyte, and lyke the moste godly and moste worthy chiefe ruler of this realme, myndynge to proue and assaie, whether by the attemperaunce and moderation of the sayde custome and subsidie of straungers, goodnes, pofyte, and commoditie, shall succede, encrease and growe to the common welthe of this his realme, accordynge to his graces hope and expectation in that behalfe, Is therfore, and for other considerations, mouynge his highnes, pleased and contented for the experymente therof, that from the. vi. daye of Apryll, in the. xxx. yere of his graces reygne, durynge the full and hole terme of. vii. yeres, from thense nexte folowynge, no persone or persones, beinge straungers or denysens, conueynge or transporthyng any goodes, wares, or marchandyses into any porte cteke, or other place of this realme, or out of the same, shall for and durynge the same tyme of. vii. yeres, paye any other more or larger custome and subsidie, than the kynges owne lounge and naturall subiectes, haue vsed and ben accustomed to doe and paye at this present tyme (custome and subsidie for wolles onely excepted.) And his highnesse straitely chargeth and commaundeth all and singular Customers, Comptrollers, and other his mynisters, haunge charge of receyte of his customes and subsidie, that they ne any of them, by any maner of colour or meanes, durynge the sayde tyme of seven yeres, shall exacte take or receyue of any straunger or denysen, any other more or larger custome and subsidie, than is aboue especified in this his graces proclamation, vppon payne of forfayture of their offyces, and makynge fyne at his graces wyll: And ouer that vppon payne to yelde and render to the parties greued, tenne tymes so much as they shall exacte and take, contrarie to this presente proclamation. And his highnesse also chargeth and commaundeth, as well the Treasourer Chauncellour Chamberlaynes and Barons of his exchequer, and euery of them, as all other his Auditors, haunge charge to take accomtes of his customes and subsidies, that they, ne any of them, from the sayde fyrte daye of Apryll, durynge the sayde tyme of. vii. yeres, from thens nexte folowynge, shall charge any the sayde customers, comptrollers, and mynisters of any other further or more custome and subsidie, for straungers or denysens, then aboue is expressed, as they woll aunswere to his highnes at theyr vttermoste perylls. Spynsieng and declarynge, as well to the sayde treasorer chauncellour chamberlaynes barons and auditors, and to euery of them, as to all and singular the sayde customers comptrollers and mynisters, that they folowynge and ensynge this his graces proclamation, the same shal be to them, and to euery of them, theyr heyes and executours, and to the heyes and executours of euery of them, a sufficient warrant and discharge agaynst his maiestie, his heyes and successours for the same, without any other byll, warraunt, witt, or other commandment to be sued in this behalfe. Wherby alwayes, that this present proclamation, ne any thyng therein conteyned, shall not extende, to geue licence or libertie to any person or persones straungers or other, to conuey or transporte into this realme or out of the same, any goodes wares or marchandyses, contrary to the fourme and effect of the lawes and statutes of this Realme: But that it shall be vnderstande taken and expounded alonely, that custome and subsidie of straungers and denysens, shall be agreeable and equal with the custome and subsidie of the kynges owne naturall subiectes, and not aboue, durynge the tyme of. vii. yeres afore lymitted.

Yeuened at our palays of westm, the. xxvi. day of february, in the. xxx. yere of our Reygne.

GOD SAVE THE KYNGE.



Tho. Berthelet Regius impressor excus.
CVM PRIVILEGIO.

26 Fe 1539